

Remarks

Claims 1-14 were rejected in the office action under 35 USC 112 as being indefinite and for failing to point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1-14 have been amended to overcome the limitations that were considered to render the claims indefinite by claiming a ladder system for use in a water craft wherein the track arrangement allows the ladder to be moved between a first location adjacent an opening in an enclosure for the deck of the water craft to a second location adjacent the opening where the ladder is behind the enclosure.

The positive recitations in the claims relating to the boat, gate, enclosure, and deck in the independent claims have been deleted as elements are not a part of the invention but function to provide a background of the relationship between first and second hinges, the track and ladder.

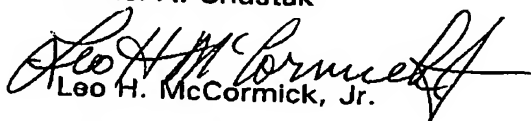
The claims have been amended with the track arrangement clearly identified as including a rail and first and second hinge members with specific recitations relating to the components of the first and second hinge member which are structurally identical to function in the desired manner to permit the ladder to be moved along the rail from the gate to a position adjacent the gate but hidden behind the enclosure of the water craft.

The claims as now written define applicant's invention in a manner that one of ordinary skill in the art could understand and duplicate.

In conclusion, amended claims 1-14 now present in this application recite specific structure in a definite manner with a clear antecedent basis for a ladder system that includes a rail and hinge for a track arrangement for a ladder used on a deck of a water craft.

Respectively Submitted

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CERTIFICATE OF Transmission

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent by fax to the United States Patent Office on May 5, 2005 to the following No. 703-872-9306.


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